

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, January 19, 2023

Riverside, OH

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, present; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Dan Stitzel, Fire Chief; Kathy Bartlett, Public Service Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: No council members were absent.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: No changes were made to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Denning, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES: Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023, council business meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

LIQUOR CONTROL: Mr. Rauch stated there were no issues with the request for a new license One of a Kind Dining, LLC, DBA OKDS, 3937 Linden Avenue, Riverside, OH. Council did not request a hearing.

WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS: Mayor Williams stated any citizen wishing to speak should fill out a petition form and turn it in to the clerk.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

A) Police Department – Chief Robinson stated that Major Jackson will be out for a couple of weeks due to surgery. He and Major Sturgeon spoke with Enterprise about their vehicle situation. Tomorrow, they will meet with a new company that will provide them with costs and turnaround time for upfitting police vehicles. He stated that two new officers started this past month and are in their field training right now. Mr. Rauch stated they will come to a meeting to be formally sworn in next month. He stated that they submitted their bill for CBT training they are required to have to be police officers in Ohio. They will get reimbursed for some of the training, approximately \$12,000. They also closed their grant with IDEP and ISTEP. The 2023 grant will fall in place right behind those, which is about \$15,000. He added that if they apply for it the grantor typically gives it to them. Finally, he stated they secured the bullet-proof vest grant, a federal grant, which pays for 50 percent of the vests. The state of the Ohio gives a grant for 75 percent, so they are using that one as

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opposed to the BPV Federal Grant. They continue to apply for the federal one should anything happen with the other they will be covered.

B) Fire Department – Chief Stitzel stated there was a house fire in the southern end of the city, and a victim did succumb to the injuries. They are doing all the investigations necessary since it is considered a fatal fire. They conducted interviews this week for full-time firefighters with three new positions. There will be another opening in a couple of months, and they were trying to find enough candidates to cover all four, but they found three they will move forward. They will still advertise. They will work on background investigations of the three and hopefully get them started in the next two to three weeks. He added a part-time lady joined today, but a part-time male just left.

C) Public Services Department – Ms. Bartlett stated they are putting together their 2023 work plan and goals for the year. Last week, she found out that the MVRPC staff recommended the City's Woodman Phase IV Transportation Alternatives Grant, approximately \$1.0 million, for funding. It will be finalized in March when it goes to the board. The Spinning Phase I Project has been moved slightly. It will now begin in late summer to early fall; previously, it was to start in the spring. They are working on residential assessments for the curb, sidewalk, and driveway aprons for Lynnhaven, Meyer, and Eastman. They have three trucks out for repair. The new hire is continuing training in the snowplow. They repaired the entrance way sign on Airway into Riverside from Beaver Creek.

D) City Manager Report – Mr. Rauch clarified that they were contemplating putting a property tax renewal on the ballot for public safety. He verified with the auditor's office and the current levy is good through 2023 with collection through 2024. So, the earliest they could put it on the ballot would be November 2023; they are not under any time pressure to put on May ballot. He stated that last night there was a planning commission meeting. At one point in the meeting staff mentioned that for proposed rezoning there would be two public hearings. He stated there are two public meetings in which that rezoning could be discussed, clarifying there is a distinction between a public hearing and a public meeting. That recommended rezoning will come to council on February 2, 2023, for a first reading where the public can comment like they normally do. There is not a public hearing associated with that reading at that time. If council approves the first reading, it will come back on February 16, 2023, at that time there will be a public hearing dedicated to that ordinance. He stated the final update is related to finance. Their data migration with SSI was successful. They are where they expected to be and will continue working through that process.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Williams stated that no one requested to speak.

OLD BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) Ordinance No. 23-O-815 – An ordinance amending Section 182.26 of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) Rules and Regulations of the**

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Administrative Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (2nd reading and public hearing)

Mr. Rauch stated this corrects the wording in the city code to remove RITA from the language and references a company collecting income taxes.

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Denning, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 23-O-815. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:14 pm. No one came forward. He closed the public hearing at 6:15 pm.

Roll call: Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion passed.**

II) Ordinance No. 23-O-816 – An ordinance amending chapter 1115.01 Accessory Buildings and Use Standards of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (2nd reading and public hearing)

Mr. Rauch stated these are recommendations to make text amendments to accessory structures section of the UDO. These are recommended changes to fences, porches, balconies, and such.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 23-O-816. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:16 pm. No one came forward. He closed the public hearing at 6:16 pm.

Roll call: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion passed.**

III) Ordinance No. 23-O-817 – An ordinance providing for the issuance of not to exceed \$4,735,000 Building Acquisition and improvements Special Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, 2023 renewal, by the City of Riverside, Ohio in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, providing for the pledge of revenues for the payment of such notes, and declaring an emergency. (2nd reading and public hearing)

Mr. Rauch stated this is the ordinance that allows them to do their annual bond renewal for the Wright Point office buildings.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 23-O-817. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

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Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:17 pm. No one came forward. He closed the public hearing at 6:17 pm.

Roll call: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

I) Resolution No. 23-R-2822 - A resolution appointing the City of Riverside's 2023 representatives to the First Suburbs Consortium of Dayton Ohio Council of Governments.

Mr. Rauch stated this is a preliminary resolution where they grant ODOT permission to do some of the work and commit to the funding elements of it. There are some funding sources and grants lined up to do that. They will see this again before the project is bid out.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2822.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No one came forward to speak.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. Denning hoped everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. He thanked the service department for their work as they may be out this weekend. He stated that he has had some discussion and would like to motion to have the planning commission revisit the section regarding residents being allowed to raise chickens in their backyard. He stated that if they have four people who want to make that happen, then they can move it forward. If not, then it is a moot point. He stated it would be six hens not roosters. He would want staff to review it as well. Mr. Joseph seconded the motion. Mayor Williams asked for the motion to be made clear. Ms. Grandjean stated an affirmative vote does not mean they support chickens in the city, just that they will have the planning commission look at it. Mayor Williams stated he wanted to clarify that there is already an ordinance that allows people to raise chickens in the city. Mr. Denning stated that if you have 1.5 acres you get special agricultural use to have chickens, horses, goats, ducks, turkeys, etc.. He is asking for something that allows for people to be able to put chickens on smaller lots. He would like planning commission and staff to review it. Discussion was held on what council was asking of the planning commission and staff. Ms. Grandjean asked Mr. Denning if he was asking planning commission not to review the same motion that was rejected but to consider an urban chicken ordinance and modification of the zoning code to allow this. Mr. Denning stated that was accurate.

Mr. Denning motioned, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to request that the planning commission review the language of allowing residents who live on smaller lots to raise chickens and have this placed on their upcoming agenda.

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Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin, no; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, no; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, no. **Motion carried.**

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch reminded council of the school activity on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at Mad River Middle School from 10 am – 2 pm. She asked if the City would have representation for the parent education event. She stated the MVRPC dinner will be the last Thursday in April at Carillon Park. She added there is a blood drive coming up in February.

Mayor Williams invited people to attend the family summit at Mad River Local Schools as the deputy mayor mentioned. He thanked the city manager for having a lot of involvement with the school superintendent on the support the city can provide. He recognized the clerk as she has been elected to be a board member of the Ohio Municipal Clerks Association. He thanked the planning commission and the chair, all volunteers, for conducting the meeting in a vibrant atmosphere, but in a very fair way. He thanked city staff, Nia Holt, who does exemplary work and what she is producing for the city. He invited anyone who was free on Saturday, January 28, 2023, to come out to the St. Helen's fish fry.

Mr. Joseph stated that the Reds Caravan will be at the Air Force Museum on Saturday, January 28, 2023. It will take place from 3:00 – 5:00 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mrs. Franklin moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to enter executive session for the following: 103.01(1) Unless the City employee or official requests a public hearing; to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a city employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a City employee or official; and 103.01(2) To consider the purchase of property for public purposes, or for the sale of public property, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal or private interest is adverse to the general public interest. Roll call: Mrs. Franklin, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. Council went into executive session at 6:31 pm.

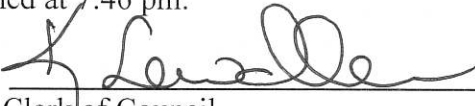
RECONVENE: Council reconvened at 7:09 pm.

MOTIONS: Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to have legislation brought forward at the next meeting to increase the pay rate of the city manager by two percent. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to have legislation brought forward at the next meeting to increase the pay rate of the clerk by two percent. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.


Peter J. Williams, Mayor


Clerk of Council

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